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In re Application of:

THERESA M. MIALE, et al.

Serial No.: 10/635,670

Group Art Unit: 3644

Filed: August 5, 2003

Examiner: Elizabeth Anne Shaw

For:

June 14, 2005.

ANIMAL LIFE AND TRANSPORT

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR

USING SAME

Attached hereto please find a Response to the Office Action (Restriction Requirement) mailed

Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted (703-872-9306) to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on July 14, 2005.

Janice Crisp

PAGE 1/4 * RCVD AT 7/14/2005 7:10:52 PM [Eastern Daylight Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-1/3 * DNIS:8729306 * CSID:PHJW SAN DIEGO * DURATION (mm-ss):01-24

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PATENT Attorney Docket No. 38602.00003.CON1

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
THERESA M. MIALE, et al.)
Serial No.: 10/635,670) Group Art Unit: 3644
Filed: August 5, 2003) Examiner: Elizabeth Anne Shaw
For: ANIMAL LIFE AND TRANSPORT APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR USING SAME))))))

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This communication is responsive to the Office Action mailed June 14, 2005. That

Action indicated that the time for response was one month from that date. Applicants therefore
believe that this response is timely filed.

Certificate of Transmission under 37 CFR 1.8

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JANICE CRISP

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

Signature

PHJW SAN DIEGO

PATENT Attorney Docket No. 38602.00003.CON1

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following groups of claims under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

Group I: Claims 21-31, drawn to a method of transporting an animal, classified in class 119, subclass 712.

Group II: Claims 32-35, allegedly drawn to an animal transport unit, classified in class 119, subclass 712.

In response to the present Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect Group II, drawn to an animal transport unit, with traverse.

The Examiner has not met the required burden for demonstrating the necessity for restriction and election of species. Restriction is proper when (1) the inventions are independent or distinct as claimed; and (2) there would exist a "serious burden" on the Examiner if all of the claims were examined together.

See M.P.E.P. § 803. The Examiner has not demonstrated that examination of all claims of the pending application as filed would create a "serious burden."

Furthermore, the Examiner has mischaracterized the claims of Group II as being drawn to an animal transport unit. The Examiner will note that claims 34 and 35 are method claims. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the present Restriction Requirement.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance and a timely notice to that effect is requested. If it is believed that prosecution may be furthered thereby, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative to discuss the same.

PATENT Attorney Docket No. 38602.00003.CON1

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance and a timely notice to that effect is requested. No fees are believed due in connection with this submission; however, if any fees are due please charge the appropriate amount to <u>Deposit Account No. 50-2613</u>.

Respectfully submitted,

PAUL, HASTINGS, JANOFSKY & WALKER LLP

Dated: July 14, 2005

Jane K. Babin Reg. No. 47,224

JKB:jc

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